

Remarks

The Examiner rejected claims 1–3, 5–9, 11, 14, and 15 and objected to claims 4, 10, 12, 13, and 16. Applicants have amended claims 1, 4, 5, 10, 11, 12, and 16 and have added new dependent claims 17–24. Claims 1–24 are in the application. All the claims are in condition for allowance.

Claim 1 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of previous claim 4, which the Examiner indicated as allowable. Claim 1 and its remaining dependent claims 2, 3, 13, 14, and 15 are now in condition for allowance.

Claim 5 has been amended to incorporate the limitations of previous claim 10, which the Examiner indicated as allowable. Dependent claim 11 has been amended to comport with the language of claim 5 as now amended. Claim 5 and its remaining dependent claims 6, 7, 8, 9, and 11 are now in condition for allowance.

Claim 12, indicated by the Examiner as allowable, has been rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of its base claim, previous claim 5. Claim 10 has been amended depend from claim 12 and include the limitations of claim 6. New claims 21–24 also depend from claim 12 with limitations corresponding to claims 7, 8, 9, and 11. Thus, claim 12 and its dependent claims 10 and 21–24 are in condition for allowance.

Claim 16, indicated by the Examiner as allowable, has been rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of its base claim, previous claim 1. Claim 4 has been amended depend from claim 16 and include the limitations of claim 2. New claims 17–20 also depend from claim 16 with limitations corresponding to claims 3, 13, 14, and 15. Thus, claim 16 and its dependent claims 4 and 17–20 are in condition for allowance.

Applicants respectfully request entry of the amendments and allowance of the application.

This response is being electronically filed within three months of the Final Office Action. Extra claims fees and any fees considered necessary for consideration of this response may be charged to Deposit Account No. 12-0090. If the Examiner thinks a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, he is cordially invited to call applicants' attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

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